

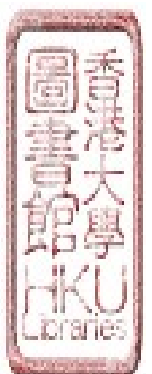


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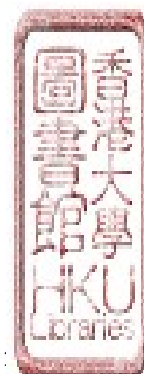
***8 Weeks in Commercial Radio –  
talk radio programme in 2015***

Ma Ka Ki  
UID: 2013933919



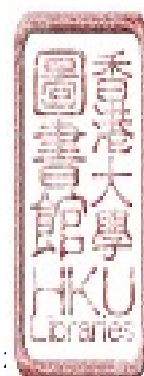
## ABSTRACT

Lion Rock is a sign of Hong Kong. Looking out from the window of Commercial Radio Building, I see the Lion Rock unexpectedly. I wonder, this lion on the rock cannot roar for the public. This radio station can. 2014 is rough year of all media. Commercial Radio (CR) has no exception. They terminated the contract with the famous programme host Li Wei Ling and the critics commented CR still could not overcome their worry about the renewal of their broadcasting license. CR seems to be becoming conservative. Once upon a time, talk radio programmes were the most popular items on their programme list. They created noises in the town and changes in the society. The programme cultivated many “famous mouth” and these people are still impactful in the political world in Hong Kong. Does CR choose stepping back? What pressure they are under? This purpose of the research is to look into the operation of the talk radio programme and their strategy. I did not prefer understanding them through books, newspaper and online sources. I would like to observe them in person. I became an intern of CR and worked for their famous talk-radio programme *On a Clear Day*. This internship lasted for 8 weeks. In these 8 weeks, there were many issues happened in Hong Kong, like the debate of Political Reform, anti-parallel traders campaign and split of Hong Kong Federation of Students. I have a closer on the team and the politicians. In the research, I try to analyse how the communists’ government views the role of media. I hope to find out why the pressure is formed. On the other hand, I use the Dependency Model of Mass Media Effect by Rokeach and DeFleur (1976) to analyse the weakened connection between the talk-radio programme in CR and the audience. Last but not least, I will mention the spirit of being a “watchdog” in Journalism and how the hosts play this role.



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

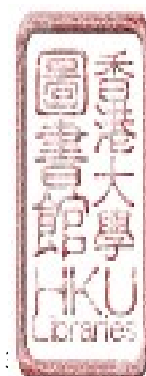
*I take this chance to express my heartfelt thanks to the On a Clear Day team: Maggie, Ken, Stephen, Sang, William, Chan Chung, Grace and Tsz Kwan. A great team in the media industry.*



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## Introduction

On 26 July 2015, the long-timed programme host Joseph Tse Chi Fung hosted his last episode of *City Forum*. Two days before his last day of hosting, the outstanding patriot Leticia Lee led a group of people to demonstrate at the gate of the Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) building. They criticized Tse's hosting style as unfair to Pro-establishment camp and leaning to pan-democratic camp. Tse did not say much about their accusation but emphasized "all journalists are Watchdogs"<sup>1</sup>. Then Lee turned out to tease him admitting himself as a "dog".

The above case is not an incidental one. In 2014, the local journalists have gone through a rough year. Critics commented it was the darkest year of press freedom<sup>2</sup>. In February 2014, the ex-chief editor of *Ming Pao* Kevin Lau was attacked by two choppers and the incident sparks anger from the local journalists and started the Blue Ribbon campaign<sup>3</sup>. In June 2014, the website of *Apple Daily* has been brought down by a large scale cyberattack at the first day of an online poll of political reform initiated by Occupy Central with Peace and Love and the Public Opinion Programme of The University of Hong Kong. The website has been out of service for one long day<sup>4</sup>. In July 2014, the aggressive online news platform *The Main News*, which was also claimed as the Hong Kong version of Huffington Posts, has been abruptly shut down after 2 years of operation<sup>5</sup>. The founder, Tony Tsoi has not revealed the reason behind of his decision.

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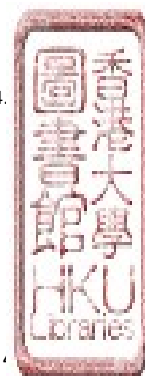
<sup>1</sup> "謝志峰自比「看門狗」喻監察當權者 正義聯盟讀得書少起哄盲批." 立場新聞, 24 July 2015. Web.

<sup>2</sup> Lo, Wei. "Darkest Year 'in Decades' for Hong Kong Press: Journalists Association." *South China Morning Post*. N.p., 7 July 2014. Web.

<sup>3</sup> "HKJA Says 13,000 March for Press Freedom." Radio Television Hong Kong, 3 Mar. 2014. Web.

<sup>4</sup> "Cyberattackers Brought down Apple Daily Website with 40 Million Hits Every Second." *South China Morning Post*, 18 June 2014. Web.

<sup>5</sup> "給關心主場新聞的人." 主場新聞 *House News*. N.p., 26 July 2014. Web.

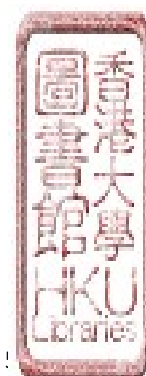


Commercial Radio has been established in Hong Kong for over 55 years. Its birth marked as a new page of media industry in Hong Kong. Yet, in February of 2014, Commercial Radio has terminated the contract with famous talk radio show host Li Wei Ling. Their decision was speculated as the exchange of renewing the broadcasting license of CR in 2015. Many presses have commented the incident was repeating the termination of contract with Albert Cheng and Wong Yuk Man in 2004<sup>6</sup>, which was associated with the political climate at the moment. Did some invisible hands try to stop Li Wei Ling, and other “watchdogs” as well, to voice out for the public?

To explore how the Commercial Radio coped, as one of the most prominent radio stations in Hong Kong, with the continuous changing media environment and increasing pressures of press freedom and freedom of expressions. This paper aims at studying individual media practitioners’ personal will and influence in constructing the community’s sense of social reality. This paper will be divided into three parts: first, the paper will start with a review of relevant literature about watchdog journalism, agenda-setting and the Dependency Model of Mass Media Effect etc. Then, this paper will move on amplifying the background and methodology of the research. By using an insider perspective, this is an exploratory study about media and society that will involve qualitative research methods including face-to-face interviews. My identity as an a radio station intern and a researcher have successfully allowed me to interview 4 radio hosts and producers and observe the operation of the ‘On a Clear Day’ programme in the Commercial Radio from 23<sup>rd</sup> February to 17<sup>th</sup> April 2015. Therefore, this paper will end with thorough and critical discussions about the research findings.

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<sup>6</sup> "李慧玲：商台為續牌炒我." Am730, 14 Feb. 2014. Web.



## Literature Review

John Thompson (1990) has suggested us to view the media based on 3 important factors: content, organisation and audience<sup>7</sup>. The first part is the content of the media message itself and how much it differs from the fact. The second is about the production and the transmission of the message. It is more about the nature of the organization and the institutional context in the message. The third one is the reception of the media message by the audience. The audience do not involve in the production process of the media message, but they can control the way that how they interpret the message. It is based other factors, like their gender, social class etc. This also affects the media they prefer to read. His saying is very similar to Stuart Hall's encoding/decoding model of the communication<sup>8</sup>, which is about how media message are produced, disseminated and interpreted.

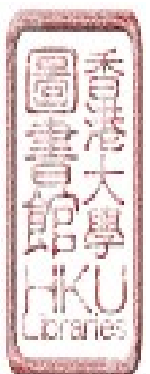
To discuss the encoding and production power that the media has been holding for centuries, Ciaran McCullagh (2002) describes the job of the media is to provide the readers what they will see in the window. The scenery is supposed to be 'clear and not distorted'<sup>9</sup>. However, the window has its boundaries. Due to the limited capacity of the media (especially the traditional media), we can see only part of the full picture through the window. The limitation can be the air time, the paper size or even the preference of the people who design the window. Selectivity will be happened and it affects the way we see the outside world. Nevertheless, Marshall McLuhan has stated that media has its important

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<sup>7</sup> Thompson, John B. *Ideology and Modern Culture: Critical Social Theory in the Era of Mass Communication*. Stanford, CA: Stanford UP, 1990. N.P.306-307 Print.

<sup>8</sup> Thompson, John B. *Ideology and Modern Culture: Critical Social Theory in the Era of Mass Communication*. Stanford, CA: Stanford UP, 1990. Print.

<sup>9</sup> McCullagh, Ciaran, and Jo Campling. "The Media as Definers of Social Reality." *Media Power: A Sociological Introduction*. Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire: Palgrave, 2002. N. pag. Print.





role in the formation of the global village<sup>10</sup>. We do not need to take few hours of flight to see what is happening in the other regions. The media becomes the window to see the world.

The above has indicated that some scholars, such as McLuhan, have taken a neutral perspective in viewing the role of the media as a window of global events and issues. But the others such as McCullagh argue that the media is never a simple reflection of social reality but an important agent for construction of the so-called truth. Living in Hong Kong, a place with prolonged press freedom, there are increasing voices in the society that China, a country governed by the communist party, is pressurizing the media in Hong Kong in various ways. Hence, it is a common believe in the society that the media in Hong Kong are a watchdog rather than a window. According to Marder (1998)<sup>11</sup>, watchdog journalism has a significant position in the society. It alerts the public when there is a problem in the government and even in the society. The journalists find out and investigate the problem through fact-checking, interviewing the related officials and people and in-depth reporting. Marder (1998) added, "Watchdog" is a metaphor of the journalists alerting the public by releasing the news, like a dog barks when they spot anything strange. And it is also the spirit of the journalists in most of the western countries.

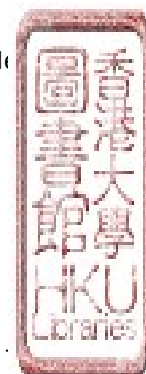
In classical Marxists' view, the mass media are as the means of production in the capitalist society and their ownerships belong to the ruling class. Marx (1982)<sup>12</sup> argued that the class, which has the means of the material production, also has the control of the means of mental production. With this stance, the function of the media under capitalist system is producing some "mental products" to "educate" (p.22) the labour class to trust the system and work harder. Stuart Hall has used Marxists' view to see the nature of the media. He

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<sup>10</sup> McLuhan, Marshall. *Understanding Media: The Extensions of Man*. N.p.:19. Print.

<sup>11</sup> Marder, Murray. "This Is Watchdog Journalism." *Nieman Reports* (1998): n. pag. Web.

<sup>12</sup> "Analytical Introduction." *Marx and Engels's "German Ideology" Manuscripts* (1982): 22. Web.



focused on how media influence the people's ideology and the society. He pointed out that "ideological power is the power to signify events in a particular event' and its power is the representation of 'the capitalist order in a way that makes it appears universal, natural and conterminous with reality itself"<sup>13</sup>. To achieve this purpose, the media would frame the issues in a way favourable to the capitalists and ruling class. Framing means selectivity. To further elaborate his view, the media corporations owned by the capitalists only choose news or specific angle of the news which are beneficial to themselves, not the society. Although Karl Marx supported press freedom and oppose the idea of censorship, he stated media had an important role in promoting socialism. The function of the media is "to perpetuate and expand the socialist system"<sup>14</sup>. It focuses more the transmission of the social policy.

With the view, it is interesting to see how Marxists see media and comment the function of the media. It is like the media is serving as a part of the state or the Communist Party and becoming as their tools. Any action harming the socialist system is immoral and forbidden. But, working with the above two contesting ideologies, do the media practitioners see themselves as watchdogs or state mouthpieces? This will be further investigated in the research part.

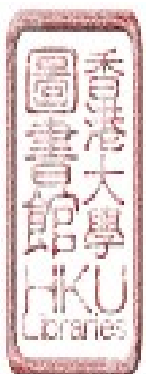
To understand how the functions of the media impact on society as a whole. Rokeach and DeFleur (1976) have suggested a model, which describes the 'tripartite relationship between media, audience and society'. They named it as 'the Dependency Model of Mass Media Effect'<sup>15</sup>. They stated these 3 factors interrelating and affecting to each other. It is used to understand the timing and the reason that the media changes the

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<sup>13</sup> Larrain, J. "Stuart Hall and the Marxist Concept of Ideology." *Theory, Culture & Society* 8.4 (1991): 1-28. Web.

<sup>14</sup> Siebert, Fred S. "Communists." *Four Theories of the Press: The Authoritarian, Libertarian, Social Responsibility, and Soviet Communist Concepts of What the Press Should Be and Do*. Urbana: U of Illinois, 1956. No page. Print.

<sup>15</sup> Ball-Rokeach, S.j., and M.I. Defleur. "A Dependency Model of Mass-Media Effects." *Communication Research* 3.1 (1976): 3-21 Web.



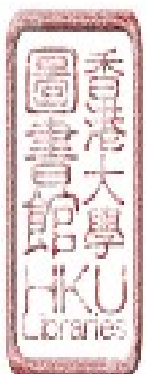
audience feelings, beliefs and behavior. They pointed out the media produce cognitive, affective and behavioral effect to the audience. The effect would be greater if the society was facing structural instability. First, the cognitive effect is about the creation and resolution of ambiguity. Ambiguity is a problem of insufficient or conflicting information<sup>16</sup>. It alerts the audience of what is happening and how important the happening is. It provides initiatives to the audience to seek more about the happening. The media is also forming an attitude, like the ideology, religion and political stance that media prefers. It will influence the stance of their audience and expand the people's knowledge and belief system at different degree. Another cognitive effect is agenda-setting. The media will select the material they prefer to cover and release it to the audience. McComb and Shaw also raised the same concept<sup>17</sup>. They investigated the presidential campaign in 1960s and 1970s. He found the media had a big push on voter's preference. However, these media filtered and shaped the "reality" to the readers. Second, affective effect is about the emotional response of the audience after reading the news. For example, news about violence will arouse the fear and anxiety of the people. Finally, behavioral effect describes people will speak out or act, which is driven by the influence of the media. It is an extension of cognitive effect and affection effect. They may join some social movements, try to sort out the issue or change their voting preference. Their changed belief and action will 'flow back' to the societal system and the media system. The relationship of the society, media and audience is more interacting in the model.

According to this explanation, it is widely agreed that media institutions are playing a very influential role in the society. Yet, little scholars have investigated whether such power would lead to a misuse by the media practitioners. This paper, focusing on the

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<sup>16</sup> Ball-Rokeach, Sandra J. "From Pervasive Ambiguity to a Definition of the Situation." *Sociometry* 36.3 (1973): 378. Web.

<sup>17</sup> McCombs, M.E., & Shaw, D.L.. The Agenda-Setting Function of Mass Media. *Public Opinion Quarterly*, 36 (1972), 176-187.



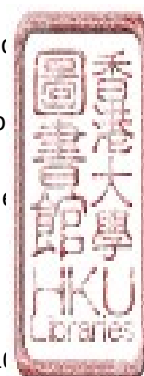
producer's perspective, is going to understand further on how the media use their power and in what ways the power is used for influencing the public.

## Background and Research Questions

In the book of celebrating RTHK's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, Wan Chin has mentioned the birth of CR<sup>18</sup>. The founder George Ho established CR in 1959. In their early years, they mainly produced music programmes and radio dramas. They headhunted many famous script writers and radio actors from Rediffusion (HK) Limited, including Li Wo(李我), Chow Chung(周聰)and Lam Bun (林彬) (P.37). Some of the radio drama depicted the daily lives of the grassroots and their struggles and difficulties. Former head of RTHK Shiu Lo Sin has commented that those radio dramas, especially the ones depicting the grassroots' lives, were not just entertainment. They became the outlet of releasing the pressure in the public. 1967 is a remarkable page in local radio's and Hong Kong's history. The rise of the communism in HK and the accumulated stress of the grassroots have led to the unavoidable strike in 1967. Lam Bun and his colleagues have produced a new radio drama "Say NO to the Strike" (欲罷不能) and a commentary segment after the news report(P.46). He depicted how worse the situation was and slammed the strike's starters in the storyline of the radio dramas. It provoked the anger from those communists' labour unions to him. In August of that year, thugs set fire to his car and he and his colleague were burned alive. Lam Bun died later on that day in the hospital. The rage of the public to riot has risen to a new high. After the riot, "Say NO to the Strike" came to an end and converted into another radio drama "Seeing it with Cold Eyes" (冷眼旁觀), which was the previous version of the long timed and ongoing radio drama "Block C, 18/F" (十八樓C座). Wan Chin has noted, the 1967 riot alerted the colonial government about the importance of current affair programmes to the

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<sup>18</sup> Chin, Wan. 《一起廣播的日子：香港電台八十年》 Hong Kong: Mingpao, 2009. Print.



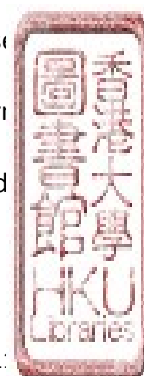
public (P.47). The government was then developing the Public Affair Television Unit in RTHK and started producing current affair programmes in 1970. This unit later produced politically influential programmes like “Under the Lion Rock” and “The Headlines”. Reviewing the development, he commented that CR has contributed a lot in the fight of press freedom in that stage. And these RTHK programmes have accidentally planted the seeds of those popular commentary and current affair programmes in TV and radio, like “News Tease” (龍門陣) and “Teacup in the Storm” (風波裡的茶杯). Undoubtedly, “Teacup in the Storm” era marked a new page of talk-radio programme and another peak of CR and even the radio industry. After 10 years of “post-teacup” era, does CR remain its leading position of voicing out and changing the society with their programmes? How they produce a talk radio programme right now? What pressure they are under? These are the research questions that this paper is going to investigate.

## Methodologies

I have read several research reports about the commentary and phone in radio programmes. They conducted their researches in both qualitative and quantitative ways. For example, Francis L.F. Lee conducted face-to-face interviews with former and existing programme hosts and producers<sup>19</sup>. He also used the phone survey conducted by the Centre for Communication and Public Opinion Survey at the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2011 as his reference. His findings are very valuable to my study. However, it seems that he did not spend a long time for observing their operation day-to-day. To understand how the programme team operates the programme and their agenda more, I decided to use observation as one of the research methods of my study. I have joined the team as an intern and worked in there for two months. As Robert Emerson, Rachel Fretz and Linda Shaw said

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<sup>19</sup> Lee, Francis L. F. *Talk Radio, the Mainstream Press, and Public Opinion in Hong Kong*. N.p.: HKU, n.d. 205. Print.



the field can see the first hand and upclose information through participation, interaction, chat and collective action<sup>20</sup>. I participated their production, attend their daily meeting and some of their gatherings. This information may help to understand what real characters the programme hosts have and their rationale of planning their programme. And two months allow me to have more time to observe them how they handle one issue in a longer timeline. Some happenings in the society, like the problem of parallel traders or political reform, are not one-day event. They have lasted for several weeks or even months. Longer time of observation and participation could allow me to record how they adjust the content or stance throughout the transformation of the issue.

Putting face-to-face, structured interview in practice, I have conducted four face-to-face interviews, including two existing hosts (Mr. Stephen Chan and Mr. Ken Kwok) and the producer (Ms. Maggie Leung) of the programmes. The last interviewee is Mr. Poon Siu Tao, he is the programme hosts of the CR2 version of *On a Clear Day* and several political programmes in CR1. He could explain the rationale of producing two versions of *On a Clear Day*. He is also a popular political figure on Facebook and interacts with his 75000 Facebook fans everyday<sup>21</sup>.

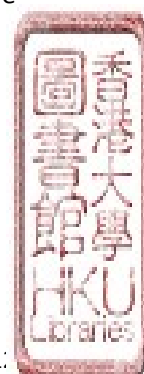
Among all interviewees, Stephen Chan has the highest rank and power in CR. He was the host of Commercial Radio (CR) morning programme named “Refresh (醒晨)” and the general manager of Television Broadcasting Limited before rejoining CR in 2012<sup>22</sup>. Ken has joined CR since 2004. From a production assistant to a programme host, he has participated in the production of *Teacup in the Storm*, *The Tipping Point* too. He witnessed the transformation of the morning talk radio programme.

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<sup>20</sup> Emerson, Robert M., Rachel I. Fretz, and Linda L. Shaw. *Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes*. N.p.: U of Chicago, 1995. Print.

<sup>21</sup> 潘小濤. "Facebook". N.p., n.d. Web.

<sup>22</sup> "政局不穩 受「時代的呼喚」". *今日信報*. 信報, 5 Mar. 2012. Web.



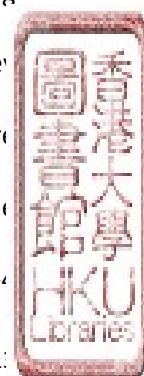
The producer of the programme, Maggie Leung is a veteran in the media industry. Before joining CR in 2012, she has been the editor of politics news in *Mingpao* for 10 years. She can share how print media view talk radio programme and the difference between two types of media.

## Findings and discussions

The official starting time of '*On a Clear Day*' is 6:30am in the weekdays from Monday to Friday. They have split the program into 2 parts. The first part is from 6:30am to 8:00am. This part is normally hosted by Denise Mak and random hosts. They update the news of the financial markets in US and Europe and summarize the headlines of newspaper in Hong Kong. The second part is hosted by any three of these names: Stephen Chan, Ken Kwok, Chan Chung and Sang Yeung. Apart from the hosts, there are two producers and two production assistants to backup the team. The team normally arrives the office by 7am in weekdays. My observations of the programme operation at CR are as follow:

### From 7am to 8am

This hour is very precious to team. They have to finish some tasks before heading to the studio. The production assistants collect the newspaper in the lobby and an item list from the news section. They order around 10 newspapers every weekday, like *Apple Daily*, *Oriental Daily*, *The Sun*, *Mingpao*, *Singtao*, *Hong Kong Economic Times*, *The Headline*, *South China Morning Post*, *Ta Kung Pao* and *Wenweipo*. There are two purposes of this step: to check what news they have missed and to compare the treatment of the same news among those newspapers. With smartphones and social media, like Facebook and Whatsapp, they are being kept posted about what is happening. So they will spot if any exclusive stories are released in those newspapers. The production assistants are the busiest bees in this time slots. They produce the opening music for the programme. This music carries 3-4

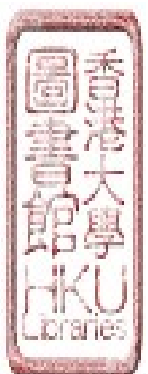


outstanding quotes spoken by the news figures at the day before. They have to watch the news clip on the website of *TVB* news, *Cable TV* news or *NOW TV* news to capture the quotes. Apart from this daily task, the hosts may request them to find out some quotes which have been appeared sometimes ago and play it during the programme. After rushing the sound clip part, one assistant will read *Ta Kung Po* and *Wenweipo* and check any interesting news and angles in these two leftists' newspaper. The other assistant will help to verify some news and conduct some instant research for the hosts. Sometimes, they have to continue the research in the studio. Around 7:20am, they will have a quick meeting to discuss the programme flow and what interview should be confirmed at last minute.

I wonder if the previous programme hosts have the same practice before the programme starts as the existing ones. I checked with Ken Kwok (Ken). He said Albert Cheng has left when he joined CR as a production assistant of *Teacup in a Storm*. In the early years, he assisted Leung Man To and various programme hosts of *Teacup in the Storm* and *On a Clear Day* later. As far as he remembered, Leung Man To always prepared his own script. He did not need so much preparation in CR building before the programme started. I have asked Poon Siu Tao (Poon) the way they prepare their 903 version of *On a Clear Day* (903 OCD) in the morning. He gathers with the other hosts, Jan Lamb and Ken Yuen, in the meeting room and discusses the content of the programme. He stated that Jan Lamb would design the flow of the programme and prepare script for himself. Comparing with these two references, the flow of *On a Clear Day* sounds like a more collective one.

### **From 8am to 10am – in the studio**

After one hour of rush work, the team will head to the studio before 8. There is an important tool to connect the producers and production assistants (production team) with the hosts during the airtime – Skype. There is a computer next to the panel. The hosts can check the Skype message through the notebook on the desk. The production team can notifi





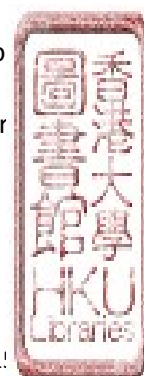
the host about the arrival of guest, response of phone-in and ending time of each section etc. Another purpose is delivering the instant comment about the content. For example, the host interviewed Cheng Chung Tai from Civic Passion and Gary Fan from Neo Democrats on 10 March 2015<sup>23</sup>. The hosts asked Cheng for the role of Civic Passion in the anti parallel traders campaign in Yuen Long. Maggie raised out why Civil Passion people left the crowd when the campaign has not come to an end. She would send the questions through the skype and remind the host to ask so. The producers can help to monitor the flow via this communication tools.

### The interviews

During the research period, they conducted interviews in every time of the programme (Appendix 1). There are mainly three types of the interview: Seated interview, phone interview and recorded interview. Most of the interviews were done in live. And the frequency of the seated interviews is quite high. Around 37 out of 40 days of research had guests be present in the studio and 36 out of 37 days have more than one interview. As Ken remembered, they did not have many seated interviews before. He thought that they were the programme hosts, not the journalists. It made the programme sound like the programme produced by the news section. Hosts of CR channel 903 OCD seldom invite guest to be present in the programme. Poon said it was about the flow of the programme, "We go humorous style. It is really hard to control the flow if a guest is here". In Stephen's view, it is a good idea to have guests present. He believed the audience had the wisdom to understand the fact instead of listening the host's interpretation. What he thought a host to do was asking questions to the guests, the audience could know the fact through the answer or response of the guests. He emphasized even a pause or a moment of silence is an answer

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<sup>23</sup> "鄭松泰：是否罵錯人非重點 不應要求示威者道歉." RTHK, 10 Mar. 2015. Web.



The audience could sense the attitude of the guests. The hosts were better not to judge instantly, but provide information to the audience to judge.

In Albert Cheng's book series *SARS in the Storm*<sup>24</sup>, he has published the transcripts of 'Teacup in the Storm' during the SARS period. In an interview with Cheng Ka Fu and Ko Wing Man, who was the Chief Executive Officer of Hospital Authority at that moment, Ko was being "judged" by Cheng in the interview on 19 March 2003(P.52):

Cheng: The medical staff has the emotional needs. I hope you not to despise (鄙視) their emotional needs.

Ko: Cheng, can you not use the word "despise"?

Cheng: I cannot, because you sound like we are using emotional words, we try to impress people with these emotional words.

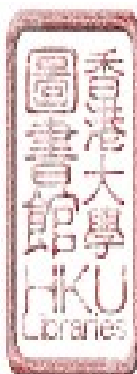
Ko: I definitely do not have this intention.

Cheng: This is my instant feeling and intuition. You are a doctor and I am a laymen. I am emotionally hurt in this issue (shortage of masks to the medical staff), but you think I am impressing the audience with my words. I am not, do you understand?

With this extract of the whole interview, I find that Cheng's style goes personal. He believes his own judgment and intuition and he would slam the guests heavily during the interview. Even Ko has denied Cheng's judgment, Cheng continued to develop his own statement. I compare this interview with the interview conducted by Stephen, Ken and Chan Chung. It was about the anti-parallel trader protests in Northwest District of the New Territories and the interviewees were Cheng Chung Tai and Gary Fan Kwok Wai. I use this

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<sup>24</sup> Cheng, Albert. *SARS in the Storm*. Vol. 1. Hong Kong: TOM (Cup Magazine) Pub., 2004. Print.



interview because the issue drew lots of concern from the public. They were debating about the protestors kicking the tourists' luggage during the disputes in the Tuen Mun:

(Around 8:34am)

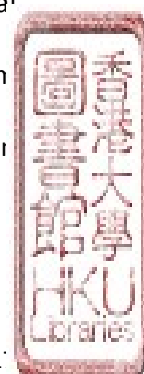
Cheng CT: I don't think kicking luggage in that moment was a behavior violating the law or morality (.....)The point is the government hasn't given out a solution, like cancelling Multiple Permit Entry(.....)People there have to think the best way to sort out the problem.

Chan Chung: A little bit difference there. You can understand the reason of kicking other people's luggage, but it doesn't mean you accept their action.

Cheng CT: If you were one of the protestors in it and you saw other protestors kicking luggage, you wouldn't ask them to say sorry to the people whose luggage were being kicked. Some protestors act this way and some act that way. (.....)I want to be cleared that, the protestors are someone protecting Hong Kong. If you belonged to some political party, you would be worried about the bad image of acting this way. However, these protestors are the residents of the district. They won't worry about their image. (.....)

Gary Fan: it's right if you point out the government has done nothing to solve this issue. However, the action of the protestors is problematic and shifts the focus of the issue. It makes other people feel bad about the protestors and not to support their intention. It is not worth it (.....)when you are in a battlefield, you should shoot at the target not shoot anywhere.

Cheng CT: I have to response to Gary Fan, this is not an issue of Political Reform. Political Reform is a matter of all Hong Kong people. However, the protest is more about the problem in the district. (.....)We do not need support from people living in Mid-Levels. And you can see, the government is doing something now after the protest (....)

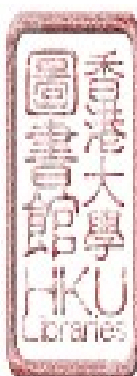


This part of debate lasts for 5-6 minutes. However, you can see that the role of guests is relatively obvious. Three hosts did not involve much in the debate. This coincides with the style which Stephen stated: let the guests speak, let the audience judge. Compared with Cheng's style, their hosting style is much milder. They pretended themselves as the outsiders of the protest and be neutral. I wonder if this is to avoid the audiences to label them as support or against government camp, which may affect the images of themselves as well as the radio station.

To maximize their "neutral" perspectives, they prefer creating debate in the studio on every issue, with the representatives of each side. That is, a representative from anti-government side and vice versa. On 4 March, they planned to discuss the plan of converting an industrial building in Chai Wan into columbaria. The building belongs to Kerry Properties and it seemed that the residents in Chai Wan did not prefer the plan. Then Maggie wanted me to find at least one representative from each side. It was easier to find the representative from the "against" side. Many District Councilors in Eastern District, including the outspoken one Wong Kwok Hing<sup>25</sup>, has shown their objection to the plan. However, I could find anyone to support the plan. I tried to approach the corporate communication department of Kerry Properties, but they rejected our invitation. Maggie then suggested me to search some names which are familiar with the funeral service. She pointed out the fact is the shortage of land for building columbaria. And this is a big problem in the near future. If we could not sort out this issue, we could not find a place in Hong Kong to rest in peace. She thought it was better have someone from the funeral service industry to raise out this point. So I tried to contact Hong Kong Funeral Services Association and they referred me to their Chairman Mr. Ng Yiu Tong. Although Mr. Ng did not support the plan too due to insufficient information by Kerry Properties and the interview could not become an impressive debate

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<sup>25</sup> "倉卒諮詢 罔顧民意 反對嘉里貨倉變骨灰場." 工聯會, 2 Mar. 2015. Web.



he did bring out the point of insufficient space for building columbaria. Due to such ideology of “two sides”, this programme episode, in my opinion, turned out to be off-topic.

For other issues, they adapt the similar approach to choose guests. They have conducted interviews on the Political Reform issue and make a series for that. On 12, 13, 16 and 17 March, they have done a series of interviews about the Dr. Robert Chung Ting Yiu’s suggestion of conducting public survey<sup>26</sup> on Political Reform issue. The hosts and producers decided to lengthen the discussion and let the audience know the importance of it. On the first day, they invited Chung Ting Yiu to present the idea and explain the details. On the second and third day, they invited Legislative Councilors from pan democratic camp and pro establishment camp respectively to express views from their side. On the fourth day, Professor Chan Kin Man from Occupy Central Campaign was present at the studio to express his views as a key person of Umbrella Revolution. The discussion was still continued after the interview series was completed<sup>27</sup>. Back to the Dependency Model I mentioned before, the media can produce cognitive effect to the audience by their treatment of the fact. In this case, they extended the discussion for few episodes. This was delivering a hidden message to audience to notice the importance of this issue. They expected audience would be motivated to search more information about Dr. Chung’s proposal and continue the discussion. It is the behavioral result of the cognitive effect.

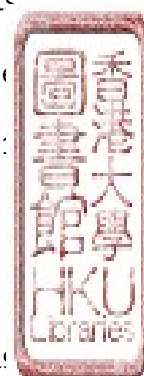
### Phone-in

During the research period, only three times of the phone-in section have been done. They include the phone-in section in three issues: Loan for paying land premium of flats under Hong Ownership Scheme, Political Reform and the problem of parallel traders. The last one received the most number of calls and the incoming calls occupied all lines in 88:

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<sup>26</sup> "鍾庭耀倡全民投票解政改僵局." Mingpao, 12 Mar. 2015. Web.

<sup>27</sup> "馮檢基：看不到我們可同意通過 831." DBC 數碼電台, 16 Apr. 2015. Web.

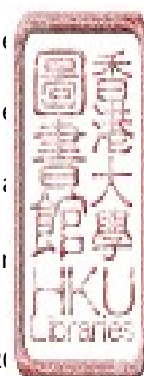


and 5 members of the team were handling the calls. However, quantity does not mean quality. The hosts wanted some phone-in callers would say something against the action of the protestors. However, all callers did not really feel bad about their action. The callers were so eager to phone-in, because they wanted to express how much they have suffered in the problem of parallel traders in their daily lives.

After the phone-in section, the production team entered the studio and had a short discussion with the hosts during the commercial break. The hosts said the quality of the calls were not good and could not bring new insight to the issue. Maggie defended that the people was being suppressed so long and they could not be rational at that moment. In the face-to-face interviews, Maggie and Stephen have explained the reason of “less phone-in”. Maggie revealed that the hosts felt the quality of the phone-in calls were declining. They wanted some high quality phone-in calls, like some insiders, professionals and people expressing views rationally. However, all of these people have gone to work and were not able to make the calls. So they started minimizing the number of phone-in sections. And the audience could sense that the hosts were not keen to do phone-in section anymore. This would spoil their initiative to make calls to the programme. Stephen said he preferred quality calls. He really wanted calls from the professionals and people who could bring new insights to the issue. Most of the audiences were not professional commenters. They could not bring out the point precisely. He always dreamt of making use of the new media. They could have a long and comprehensive list with many high quality contacts. When they encountered an issue and need some opinion, they could easily reach these people via skype or Facetime and conduct the interview instantly. The concept he addressed is actually the “Phone-out” concept. In Li Wei Ling’s book *The Tipping Point*<sup>28</sup>, she has mentioned the “Phone-Out” has been brought out by Winnie Yu (俞琤) in 2004. Yu suggested building a comprehensive contact list and turning phone-in programmes into phone-out ones. When

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<sup>28</sup> Lee, Wei Ling. *The Tipping Point*. Hong Kong: Red Publish, 2014. Print.



the hosts wanted to discuss a specific issue, they could call the people in that category and collect their opinions. The quality of calls could be controlled in this way. However, Li did not really execute her suggestion. She thought that they already conducted phone interviews to the professionals, experts and politicians. It did not make sense to collect contacts of laymen and phone-out them. Li has sensed that the audience base was contracting 10 years ago. If they cut the connection between the audience and them, they would lose more audience in a short time. And Yu kept bringing out this idea from time to time in these 10 years.

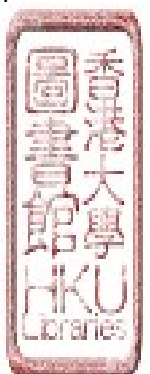
In Dependency Model, one of the important aspects is that the audiences rely on the media for information seeking so that they depend on what the media says to make everyday judgments. As shared, the audience received cognitive and affection effect from the media. The behavioral effect is turning them into action. Speaking their opinion out and calling to the radio can be part of their action. They call the radio in attempt to have discussion with the hosts. If they weaken or lose this link, the “dependency” will be not completed and may cause less dependency. In Sabine’s essay, she has done a research about the phone-in radio programme and the minorities in Britain<sup>29</sup>. She emphasized the phone-in programme gave opportunities to the general public to voice out their opinion and have interaction with hosts. The minorities therefore value these programmes because they an opportunity to voice out. Back to the *On a Clear Day*, it seemed that they sacrifice the voicing out opportunity of the general public to maintain the smooth flow of the programme.

### Agenda-setting

Throughout the research period, I found that the hosts liked asking some questions to embarrass the guests a bit. Most of these guests were from pro-establishment camp. One of the cases is the interview of Lee Kai Bun on 18 March 2015. He is the chairman of Hong Kong

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<sup>29</sup> Jautz, Sabine. "Who Speaks and Who Is Addressed in Radio Phone-ins?" *Journal of Pragmatics* 72 (2014): 18-30. Web.



Youth and Tertiary Students Association. Ms. Elsie Leung was one of their guests in their inauguration ceremony in 2015. He is also the classmate of Joshua Wong Chi Fung in The Open University of Hong Kong<sup>30</sup>. They asked him about his preference of supporting or not supporting the 31<sup>st</sup> August decision made by National People's Congress Standing Committee (9:54am):

Chan Chung: About the Political Reform, you will support or not support the 31<sup>st</sup> August decision?

Lee: I will follow the wish of the majority of Hong Kong people.

Stephen: Why you have to follow? How about your own wish?

Lee: er.....er.....I will depend on which side the Hong Kong people are supporting

Chan Chung: if more people support to reject the 31<sup>st</sup> August decision, you will follow them?

Lee: er.....er.....

Compared with the interview with Nathan Law Kwun Chung on 6 March, they showed more respect to him and greeted him with warm words in the programmes, like saying "you look a bit tired, you must work hard for the duties in Hong Kong Federation of Students". It somehow demonstrate their preference to the guests. In the face-to-face interview with Ken, he said the programme hosts always reveal their side on the politicians or political issues. As a production assistant before, his main duty was replying the warning letters from Broadcasting Authority, "Even in Li Wai Ling's era, I was also the producer of The Tipping Points at the same time. Sometimes, she would unintentionally to reveal her preference on the elections or appeal the audience to join some demonstrations. Then I have to remind the audience to know all candidates well before voting anyone or list out other demonstration they could join. It is because I know the rules set by Broadcasting Authority

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<sup>30</sup> "京背後扶植 學協擁 2.6 萬會員." *Apple Daily 蘋果日報*, 10 June 2015. Web.

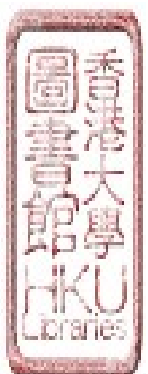




well, I was always the one to strike a balance in the studio. In above-mentioned cases, I can see that how the hosts penetrate their preference into the programme content like their attitude to the guests, their tone of talking about the issue and even speaking their preference out. It is like what the Dependency Model describes – the media have their agenda to select the fact and the way to report the fact. It somehow affects their audience with the content.

### **After 10a.m.**

The programme is finished at 10 a.m. After that, they have a review meeting to think back the flow and content and plan for the programme in next few days. They take the item list shared by News Section as their reference and discuss what guests they should approach. The production assistant then start producing the jingles and calling guests for interview. Throughout the day, the whole team will communicate through Whatsapp group and share news in it. When Ken recalled his old days with Li Wei Ling, the “after-programme” part was different. “As she was a reporter before, she thought more about the follow-up of the news. Our recent style of “follow-up” is doing a series of interviews. However, she would think some actions out of the studio. Like the earthquake in Japan in 2011, the residents were in shortage of drinking water. We found the donors of 20,000 bottles of water and someone helped us to deliver the water to the victims in Japan.” In Li Wei Ling’s book (P.101), she has mentioned that the donation was not smooth at first. They got the donation from Vitasoy. However, the Consulate General of Japan in Hong Kong only accepted the monetary donation and rejected any goods donation. They asked for audience help in the programme and received lots of helpful calls, including a call from Ms. Lionie Ki Man Fung. All 20,000 bottles of water were sent to the victims’ hands. Ken said the recent programme’s approach lacked the actual follow-up action on the issues. Comparing with the Li Wei Ling’s approach it is less impactful to the society.



I also concern if they would join any gatherings with the politicians after works. Networking with the politicians is a daily routine of many journalists. Maggie, who has worked in political section in Mingpao for 12 years, said she had to talk with many politicians over the phone everyday in Mingpao. Sometimes, she needed to have lunch with them to collect more insiders' news. Li Wei Ling also had a habit to have lunch with politicians and insiders. This was her important source for running the programme. She also revealed that, she did have this kind of lunch with CY Leung occasionally in the past. However, their relationship turned bad during the election period of Chief Executive in 2012 (P.157). Maggie said she seldom makes phone call and chats with the politicians after joining CR. It is because she is a producer of radio programme now and not a journalist anymore. And Stephen seldom spends his personal hours in the gatherings with politicians. And I have not heard many insiders' news from the hosts. It seems that the current hosts' connection with the politicians are much weaker than Li Wei Ling.

## Conclusion

In the interview with Maggie, she commented that Albert Cheng's era was the last peak of the radio industry. After that, the radio was becoming less impactful. What factors are weakening the impact of the radio? In the Dependency Model, Rokeach and DeFleur (1976) has indicated that the media corporation can produce larger effect to the citizens with more unique and central information. The degree will be higher if there is instability in the societies. In these two years, Hong Kong has faced a lot of instabilities, like the Umbrella Movement, debates on Political Reform and the problem of parallel traders. It was supposed a great moment for CR to have a "comeback". However, it did not happen. Li Wei Ling has mentioned the importance of phone-in. It connects the radio with the audience and give the opportunity to general public to voice out. This is not something that newspapers are



providing. Ken has mentioned that, the success of the talk-radio programme attributed to the exclusives. There is no phone-in political programme in television.

Without sufficient phone-in sections, the hosts are not keen to develop out of studio action too. In Li Wei Ling's era, she has developed many out of studio actions from time to time. She distributed specially designed postcard during a demonstration (P.140). She liaised merchants sued by Louis Vuitton to suitable lawyers (P.131). Comparatively speaking, she is more willing to exchange with the general public. This also helped enhancing the connection between the hosts and the audience.

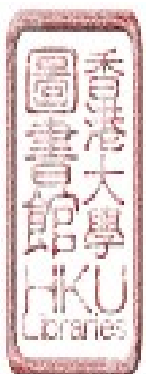
On the other hand, the new media has changed the condition of the media. Radio is not the only way to collect information. Under the cognitive effect in the Dependency Model, audience will have more initiative to find more information about issue. In the age, we can google it and read news from numerous online media platforms. In a research conducted in last June<sup>31</sup>, 960 out of 1000 interviewees use their smartphone to browse websites everyday. They have plenty of channels to receive the news. It further weakens the connection between the radio and the audience.

With a weakened connection with the audience, CR is also under the great pressure in a city of a communists' country. In Marxist's view, media is suppose to serve as an agent to promote Socialism. In this sense, media is part of the government. In a speech conducted by famous Chinese journalist Qian Gang (錢鋼), he shared his special findings about the content of newspapers in China<sup>32</sup>. It is about how they use the term of "Monitoring"(輿論監察) and "Press Freedom" (新聞自由). The government and the media prefer the term of "monitoring". However, they commonly mention "Press Freedom" in a negative way. The

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<sup>31</sup> "96%港人手機上網冠亞洲-香港大紀元." *Epoch Times*, 1 June 2015. Web.

<sup>32</sup> Qian, Gang. *中國傳媒與政治改革*. Hong Kong: Cosmo, 2008. Print.

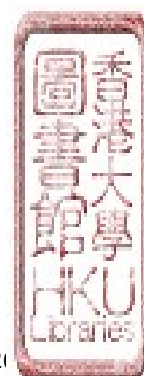


emphasize that “Press Freedom” is something “western” and “capitalism”. How to monitor a government without press freedom? He pointed out this contradiction.

Under the ideology of China and contradiction of defining press freedom, CR is hard to become an aggressive watchdog in this situation. In this situation, the hosts play safe and provide views on both sides. They let the audience to judge. In my opinion, it does not help to enhance the connection between the audience and the programme. What Dependency Model tells us is, the dependency can be enhanced through repeated interaction. Even in social media field, media experts suggest interacting with fans more to gain more engagement of them<sup>33</sup>. Although radio belongs to the category of traditional media, it does not mean they have to minimize the interaction under the political pressure. Stephen once mentioned that, their credibility is still higher than many new media platforms. Riding on this advantage, they should open the platform and open more platforms to more people to express their views at anytime. When the hosts are not convenient to become watchdogs, let the general public become the watchdogs through the radio.

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<sup>33</sup> Rampton, John. "7 Free Ways for Boosting Your Social Media Engagement." *Forbes*. Forbes Magazine, 23 Sept. 2014. Web.



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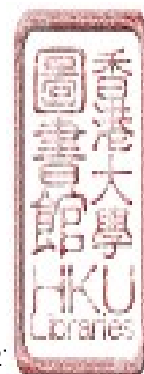
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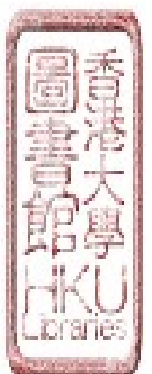
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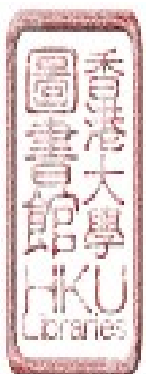
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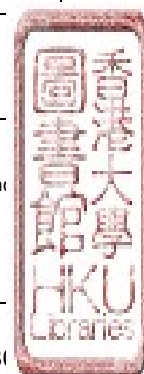
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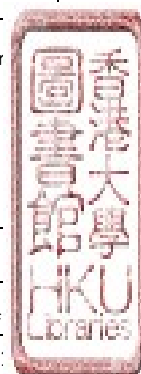
## Appendix 1 – Programme Calendar (8:00am-10:00am)

Date	Issues	Interviewee
23 Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regina Ip and Kiri</li> <li>- Split of Hong Kong Federation of Student</li> <li>- Illegal Taxi Delivery</li> </ul>	SI – 1. Fung King Yan and Lee Fung Ki (Chairman and Vice Chairman of HKU Student Union)
24 Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- One permit multiple travel</li> <li>- 2015-2016 Budget</li> <li>- National Security Law</li> </ul>	PI – Chan Yung (Legislative Councilor from DAB)
25 Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- one permit multiple travel</li> <li>- 2015-2016 budget</li> <li>- Issue of appointment of HKU's Vice Principal</li> </ul>	SI – 1. Chung Kwok Bun (Legislative Councilor from Liberal Party) and Michael Tien (Legislative Councilor from new People's Party) PI – 1. Ray Wong (Spokesman of Hong Kong Indigenous) 2. Man Cheuk Fei (Member in HKU Council)
26 Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2015-2016 budget (live broadcasting)</li> </ul>	
27 Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- National Security Law</li> <li>- Food Truck (2015-2016 budget)</li> <li>- Mortgage for elderly</li> <li>- Loan for paying land premium of flats under Home Ownership Scheme</li> </ul>	SI – 1. Sonia Wong (Representative of Burgerman) 2. Lee Ling Cheung (Executive Director of Hong Kong Mortgage Limited) PI – 1. Cheung Yu Yan (Legislative Councilor from Liberal Party)
2 Mar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- no officials attending the annual dinner of Democratic Party</li> <li>- Zhu-Hai-Macau Bridge</li> <li>- TV Commercial of Political Reform</li> <li>- Grey good traders overload Yuen Long</li> </ul>	SI – 1. Anthony Cheung Bing Leung (Secretary for Transport and Housing) PI – 1. Kevin Yam Kin Fung (Spokesman of Progressive Lawyers Group) 2. Leung Chi Cheung (Legislative Councilor from DAB)
3 Mar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Innovation and Technology Bureau</li> <li>- Fashion Design (2015-16 budget)</li> </ul>	SI – 1. Ng Man Ching (Professor of Institute of Textile and Clothing in HK Polytechnic University) PI – 1. Fanny Law (Committee of Advisory Committee on Innovation and Technology)
4 Mar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Political Reform</li> <li>- Columbarium plan in Chai Wan</li> <li>- Reserve (2015-16 budget)</li> </ul>	SI – 1. Wong Kwok Hing (Legislative Councilor from DAB) and Ng Yiu Tong (Chairman of Hong Kong Funeral Services Association) 2. Wong Wan Hau Yee (Member of the Working Group on Long-Term Fiscal Planning)
5 Mar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Revitalization of Shaw Studio</li> <li>- Landuse issue in Mashipo</li> <li>- Political Reform</li> </ul>	SI – 1. Anson Chan (Convener of Hong Kong 2020) PI – 1. Lam Siu Lo (Chairman of Antiques Advisory Board) 2. Becky Au (Representative of Mapopo Community Farm)
6 Mar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Political Reform</li> <li>- Report on the work presented by Li Keqiang</li> <li>- Split of HK Federation of Students</li> </ul>	SI – 1. Sung Yun Wing (spokesman of HK100) 2. Nathan Law Kwun Chung (Secretary of HK Federation of Students)
9 Mar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Problem of grey goods traders</li> <li>- Political Reform</li> </ul>	SI – 1. Alan Leong, Starry Lee, Wong Kwok Kin (Legislative Councilor from Civic Party, DAB and Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions respectively) 2. Wong Wai Yin (member of Hong Kong Federation of Education Workers)

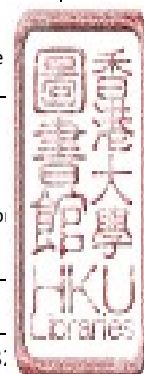




10 Mar	- Problem of grey goods traders	SI – 1. Cheng Chung Tai (Representative of Civic Passion) 2. Gary Fan (Legislative Councilor from Neo Democrats)
11 Mar	- Grey goods traders - Political Reform	PI – 1. Ronny Tong Ka Wah (Legislative Councilor, Convener of Path of Democracy) 2. Ray Wong (Spokesman of Hong Kong Indigenous)
12 Mar	- Political Reform – proposal of conducting public survey - One permit multiple travels	SI – 1. Robert Chung Ting Yiu (Director of Public opinion Programme of HKU) PI – 1. Michael Tien (Legislative Councilor from new People's Party)
13 Mar	- Split of HK Federation of Students - Political Reform Proposal of conducting public survey	SI – 1. Emily Lau, Lee Cheuk Yan, Kenneth Chan Ka Lok (Legislative Councilor from Democratic Party, Labour Party and Civic Party respectively) PI – 1. Lau Chun Lam (Chairman of Student Union of Lingnan University)
16 Mar	- Political Reform Proposal of conducting public survey	SI – 1. Starry Lee, James Tien (Legislative Councilor from LAB and Liberal Party respectively) 2. Chung Kim Wah (Head of Centre of Social Policy Studies, HK Polytechnic University)
17 Mar	- Over-budget of Guangzhou Shenzhen Hong Kong Express Rail Link project - Customer services of budget airline - Political Reform Proposal of conducting public survey	SI 1. Michael Tien Legislative Councilor of New People's Party) PI 1. Chan Kin Man (Founder of Occupy Central Campaign) 2. Wong Fung Han (Chief Executive of Consumer Council)
18 Mar	- Leung Chai Yan – Family violence in Chief Executive home - Three runway system of HK airport - Political Reform	SI – 1. Cheng Yiu Tong (Honourable Chairman of Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions) 2. Lee Kai Bun (Chairman of Hong Kong Youth and Tertiary Student Association) PI – 1. Anthony Cheung Bing Leung (Secretary for Transport and Housing)
19 Mar	- one permit multiple travels - Standard Working Hours - Political Reform – Proposal of conducting public survey	SI – 1. Chan Yuen Han (Legislative Councilor from HK Federation of Trade Unions) 2. Cheung Chi Kong (Executive Councilor)
20 Mar	- Death of Lee Kuan Yew - Three runway system of HK Airport - Rugby 7 - Trend of emigration	SI – 1. Joe Ng (Chairman of Hong Kong Aviation Industry Association) 2. Poon Yu Hei (Immigrant to Taiwan)
23 Mar	- Death of Lee Kuan Yew - Political Reform	SI – 1. Chan Kin Man (Founder of Occupy Central Campaign) 2. Chan Hung Yee (Professor of Faculty of Law, The University of Hong Kong)
24 Mar	- Three runway system of HK Airport - Standard Working Hours - Political Reform	SI – 1. Leong Che Hung (Chairman of Standard Working Hours Committee) 2. Maria Tam (Member of the Basic Law Committee) PI – 1. Lam Tin Fuk (Chief Executive Officer of The Board of Airport Authority Hong Kong)
25 Mar	- Bad debts of Government Grant and Loan - Resignation of Tsui Ying Wai	SI – 1. Yip Kin Yuen (Legislative Councilor)
26 Mar	- Issue of appointment of HKU's Vice Principal - one permit multiple travel	SI – 1. Eric Cheung Tat Ming (Lecturer of Faculty of



		Law, The University of Hong Kong)
27 Mar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Renewal of ATV's broadcasting license</li> <li>- Sudden death of a worker in the factory of Nestle Hong Kong</li> <li>- Business update of YATA</li> </ul>	SI – 1. Jame Shing (Former Executive Director of ATV) 2. Daniel Chong Wai Cung (Chief Executive Officer of YATA) PI – 1. Chan Kam Hong ( of Association for the Rights of Industrial Accident Victims)
30 Mar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Political Reform</li> <li>- Establishment of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank</li> <li>- Trend of immigration</li> </ul>	SI – 1. David Hui, Consultant of Centa Immigration PI – Regina Ip (Legislative Councilor from New People's Party) 2. Lau Siu Kai (Appointed Delegate to the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference)
31 Mar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New committee of Hong Kong Federation of Students</li> <li>- Resignation of Iris Tam of Urban Renewal Council</li> <li>- Debate on judge releasing people arrested in Umbrella Movement</li> <li>- Renewal of ATV's broadcasting license</li> </ul>	SI 1. Dennis Kwok (Legislative Councilor from Civic Party) PI 1. Nathan Law Kwun Chung (Secretary of Hong Kong Federation of Students) 2. Kevin Yam Kin Fung (Spokesman of Progressive Lawyers Group)
1 Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rumour of Ricky Wong acquiring ATV</li> <li>- Tax on plastic bag</li> <li>-Establishment of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank</li> </ul>	SI 1. Wong Kam Sing (Secretary for the Environment) 2. Frederick Ma Si Hang (Former Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development) PI 1. Jame Shing (Former Executive Director of ATV)
2 Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reject the renewal of ATV broadcasting license</li> </ul>	SI 1. Greogry So (Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development) 2. Jame Shing (Former Executive Director of ATV), Lau Shek Yin (ATV Staff) and Ngai Chau Wa (Former ATV Staff)
3 Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rejecting the renewal of ATV broadcasting license</li> <li>- Establishment of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank</li> </ul>	SI 1. Nick Ip Ka Po (Executive Director of ATV), Choi Kwok Wai (ATV staff), Nina Paw (Former ATV staff) 2. Chan Ka Keung (Secretary for Financial Services and Treasury)
6 Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of visitor under Individual Visit Scheme drops</li> <li>- Political reform</li> <li>- Concert in the Dark</li> <li>- e-cigarette</li> </ul>	SI 1. Kwong Cho Sing (Chairman of Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health) and Chan Man Fai (merchant of e-cigarette) 2. Yu Yat Yiu (Music Director of Concert in the Dark) PI 1. Martin Lee (Former member of Basic Law Drafting Committee)
7 Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of visitor under Individual Visit Scheme drops</li> <li>- Ability and capacity of RTHK to replace the broadcasting service of ATV</li> </ul>	PI 1. Wu Siu Ying (Chairman of Travel Industry Council of Hong Kong) 2. Tse Chi Fung (Producer of RTHK)
8 Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- National Security Law</li> <li>- the suicide of a girl who has lived in Hong Kong for 16 years without identity certification</li> <li>- Ability and capacity of RTHK to replace the broadcasting service of ATV</li> </ul>	SI 1. Cheung Man Sun (Former Assistant Director of Broadcasting) PI 1. A gynecologist of Union Hospital 2. Lawrence Ma (Convenor of legal committee DAB)
9 Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Stock market trend</li> <li>- Happy @hongkong Super JETSO</li> <li>- Political reform</li> </ul>	SI 1. Wu Siu Ying (Chairman of Travel Industry Council of Hong Kong) PI 1. Kwan Cheuk Chiu (Director of ACE Centre for Business and Economic Research)
10 Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rejecting the renewal of ATV broadcasting license</li> <li>- "Rubbish" Photo Exhibition</li> </ul>	SI 1. Kelvin Wu (Principal Partner of AID)



		2. the winner of the exhibition
13 Apr	- one permit one weekly travel - Political reform	SI 1. Kwok Wing Hang (Legislative Councilor from Civic Party) and Leung Wai Man (people arrested during Umbrella Movement period) PI 1. Ronny Tong (Legislative Councilor) 2. Claudia Mo (Legislative Councilor from Civic Party)
14 Apr	- Proposal of buying airtime of ATV by Ricky Wong - One permit one weekly travel - Young product designer in Hong Kong	SI 1. Yim Chi Ming (Hong Kong Young Industrialists) PI Michael Tien (Legislative Councilor from new People's Party)
15 Apr	- Political reform - International Advisory Panel on Reduction of Dietary Sodium and Sugar (IAP)	SI 1. Benard Charnwut Chan (Chairman of IAP) PI 1. Charles Peter Mok (Legislative Councilor) 2. Emily Lau (Legislative Councilor from Democratic Party)
16 Apr	- Political reform - Seven Police Officers beating arrested during Umbrella Revolution	SI 1. Tanya Chan 2. Tsang Kin Chiu PI 1. Kenneth Leung (Legislative Councilor)
17 Apr	- Censorship issue of Best Book Competition held by HK Professional Teacher's Union - Plan of purchasing water cannons by the government - Happy@Hong Kong Super JETSO	SI 1. Wong Ka Wo (Chairman of Hong Kong Brand Development Council) PI 1. Eddie Chan Shu Fai (Convenor of Civil Human Right Front)

Remark: PI - Phone Interview, SI – Seated Interview at studio, DAB – Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong

